

S/N 10/801,784

Atty Dkt No. GP-303910 (GM-0449PUSP)

Remarks

Claims 1-11 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 4-6 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayabuchi et al ('032) in view of Leonard et al ('995). Claims 7 and 8 are allowed. Claims 2 and 3 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 2, specifically that the first member of the second planetary gear set and the first member of the third planetary gear set comprise a single elongated ring gear. Because amended claim 1 incorporates all the limitations of the original claims 1 and 2, claim 1 is now allowable, as indicated by the Examiner.

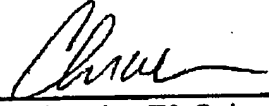
Claims 2 and 9-11 have been cancelled.

Conclusion

Remaining claims 1, 3-8 are believed to be in condition for allowance in light of this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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